









**Syllabus**  
**POLS 1600**  
**International Relations**  
**2025**

**Committee Members:**

- Linda Wilke-Heil, Central Community College
- N/A, Metropolitan Community College
- Dr. Doug Clouatre, Mid-Plains Community College
- Dr. Michael Taylor, Northeast Community College
- Griffin Hathaway, Southeast Community College
- Royce Ammon, Western Nebraska Community College
- NA, Little Priest Tribal College
- NA, Nebraska Indian Community College

**Facilitator:**

**The Institution agrees to the contents in this syllabus including course prefix, number, course description and other contents of this syllabus.**

|   |            |             |
|---|------------|-------------|
| <br>Chief Academic Officer, Central Community College            | 11/26/2024 | Adopt       |
| <br>Chief Academic Officer, Little Priest Tribal College       | 11/13/2024 | Not Offered |
| <br>Chief Academic Officer, Metropolitan Community College     | 11/13/2024 | Not Offered |
| <br>Chief Academic Officer, Mid-Plains Community College       | 11/12/2024 | Adopt       |
| <br>Chief Academic Officer, Nebraska Indian Community College  | 11/26/2024 | Adopt       |
| <br>Chief Academic Officer, Northeast Community College        | 11/15/2024 | Adopt       |
| <br>Chief Academic Officer, Southeast Community College        | 11/13/2024 | Adopt       |
| <br>Chief Academic Officer, Western Nebraska Community College | 11/12/2024 | Adopt       |



## **I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

POLS1600

International Relations

Prerequisite: None

A survey of the actors, institutions, processes, and theories of international relations including a study of contemporary global issues.

4.5 quarter credit hours

3.0 semester credit hours

## **II. COURSE OBJECTIVES/COMPETENCIES**

Course Will:

1. Acquaint students with various theories of international relations.
2. Develop student awareness of the history and evolving characteristics of sovereignty and national interest.
3. Develop student awareness of the rival political, military, and economic systems in global context.
4. Develop student awareness of religion, belief systems, and ideology in dynamics of cooperation and conflict.
5. Develop student awareness of the role of economic interdependence in international relations.
6. Develop student awareness of the sources and characteristics of international law.
7. Acquaint students with the role of global and regional organizations including government and non-governmental actors.
8. Acquaint students with emerging transnational issues such as terrorism, the drug trade, migration, and the environment.

### **III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Students will be able to:

#### **For Objective 1**

- a. Identify various theories of international relations.

#### **For Objective 2**

- a. Examine the evolving characteristics of sovereignty and national interest.

#### **For Objective 3**

- a. Identify and discuss rival political, military, and economic systems in global context.

#### **For Objective 4**

- a. Analyze religion, belief systems, and ideology in the dynamics of cooperation and conflict.

#### **For Objective 5**

- a. Assess the role of governments and multinational corporations in the economic interdependence in international relations.

#### **For Objective 6**

- a. Identify the sources and characteristics of international law.

#### **For Objective 7**

- a. Differentiate the role of global and regional organizations including government and non-government actors.

#### **For Objective 8**

- a. Analyze emerging issues such as terrorism, the drug trade, migration and the environment.

### **IV. COURSE CONTENT/TOPICAL OUTLINE**

- A. The origins and evolution of the international system
- B. The state and nationalism
- C. Foreign policymaking and levels of analysis in international relations
- D. Competing transnational values and competing ideologies
- E. International political economy
- F. Power, force and conflict resolution in global politics
- G. International organizations and law

## **V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

A. Required Text(s) – Select one or more of the following:

1. International Relations  
Pevehouse, Goldstein (Pearson)
2. Essentials of International Relations  
Karen Mingst (Pearson/VitalSource)
3. OpenStax

## **VI. METHOD OF PRESENTATION/INSTRUCTION**

Instructors should make use of varied pedagogical techniques, including several of the following: lectures, small and large discussion groups, collaborative projects, research, essays, computer-assisted instruction, multimedia and field trips.

## **VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION:**

Course grades, at the determination of instructor, will be based on class and group presentation, daily work, exams, presentations, projects, papers, and/or a portfolio. Instructor will distribute and discuss evaluation and her/his grading policies with students at the beginning of each term.

## **VIII. INSTITUTIONAL DEFINED SECTION**

A. Other requirements as determined by instructor/college.